# Orange County Elections



# Our role in the election process



Having a hand in the voting process means taking an active role in the future of Orange County. The primary mission of our office is to conduct fair and accurate elections for the citizens of Orange County. By adhering to that core mission we continue to instill confidence in the citizens we serve. We could not operate without the help of the community. This is the cornerstone of our ability to conduct successful elections. Consider this fact when thinking about Orange County elections: It takes nearly ten thousand dedicated volunteers to produce an election that serves 1.5 million registered voters. In the following pages you will find many ways to become involved. People involved with elections are passionate about what they are doing, and it shows. With your help we are determined to provide quality elections for years to come.

Neal Kelley Registrar of Voters

# Helping out at poll sites



You can play an important role in your own neighborhood. Inspiring. Engaging. Rewarding. Those are just a few of the words our volunteers have used to describe their participation on Election Day. Democracy is the emblem that symbolizes our volunteer's spirit. The kindness and generosity of our volunteers enable us to conduct quality elections for the citizens of Orange County.

# **Getting involved**

Becoming involved couldn't be easier.
Whether it's helping out on Election Day,
experiencing the excitement of Election
Night, or serving as a mobile election field
coordinator. There are many ways to make a
difference.

### An important responsibility

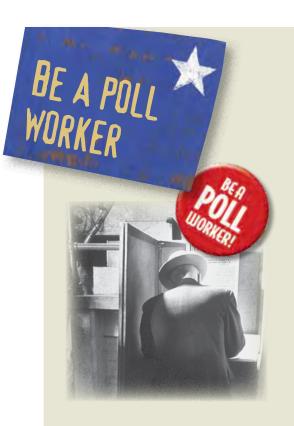
By participating in elections you're playing a part in what binds a democratic society together. Trust and faith in the electoral process relies on people like you. You'll discover real satisfaction knowing you're at the heart of what makes our country a model for free elections throughout the world.

# How to play your part

There are many options to choose from when volunteering for an election. For example, you could work as a poll worker (helping to process voters at their poll site). You could serve as a Poll Site Inspector (responsible for the poll site operations). There is also a need for Field Coordinators (roaming from poll site to poll site). Each of these individuals works to make sure Election Day runs smoothly.

#### Want even more excitement?

Work on Election Night and experience fast-paced action as election returns are processed. Each of these positions pays a stipend for your time. So you'll earn some extra cash while making a real difference in your community. Volunteer today at **ocvote.com/volunteer.** 



The need for poll workers grew in the mid-1800's when the ballot became secret. Prior to that, voters would be sworn in by poll workers and announce their choices by voice.

# Hosting a poll site



Celebrate one of the most important freedoms. Imagine: A quick, easy and convenient location to vote. Unfortunately it does not always work out so easily. Why? Often times polling locations cannot be found due to a limited amount of space in a precinct or a lack of accessible sites. This is why we rely on the community to provide qualified locations for citizens to vote at the polls.

# Hosting a poll site

We look for a variety of locations to meet the tremendous need we have during each election. Some examples include public buildings, private buildings, community centers, or even private homes. You'll be compensated for the use of your facility while helping the community. It's a satisfying way to make a real difference in the lives of the thousands of voters who use the polls each election.

# How to get started

Hosting a poll site is a welcoming introduction to the election process. We've made it easy to get involved. Plus, we'll provide all of the items needed to operate on Election Day, from tables and chairs to staffing. For all of the details visit **ocvote.com/pollsite** to learn what you can do today.



During the Civil War poll sites were moved to the battlefields to allow soldiers the opportunity to vote. The need for poll sites continued to grow as voting rights expanded for all citizens.

# Corporate sponsorship opportunities



**Getting your company involved.** Whether you're just starting out with community outreach or you're an established company, put the Registrar of Voters election partnership program to work for you. Benefits include online recognition, media recognition events, limited use of the Orange County logo to promote your involvement and more.

### **Great visibility**

We've assembled a range of benefits which provides important value for your community investment. After all, what better way to promote your community involvement than through elections? Logo placement, sponsor identification and high visibility are just a few of the benefits.

### An important responsibility

Voting impacts everyone's daily lives. Your company's participation shows that you are deeply involved in the community where you do business. It's a powerful tool for you and your business.

# How would your company participate?

No matter what level of participation you choose our election partnerships are great opportunities to strengthen ties to the community. Providing poll workers or offering your facilities for a poll site are just two of the ways to participate. Plus, we'll bring a complete training program to your company to make it easy on your organization. Let us explain all of the different types of programs available to you, as well as the advantages of each. To learn more about the many options visit ocvote.com/sponsorship.



The 17th Amendment made it so U.S. Senators were directly elected by popular vote.
Prior to 1913, Senators were appointed. The President is still not elected by popular vote, but by the Electoral College.

# MyBallot election program for students



**Helping students learn important lessons in elections and open new doors.** The Constitution of the United States has been amended several times to expand voting rights for citizens. And yet many students do not understand the impact of these historical changes. Our unique program bridges the gaps and broadens students' perspectives on the power of voting.

# The power of voting

Our unique program, Orange County's MyBallot, is a comprehensive 3-step series which includes in-class lessons on the history of voting, creating ballots and vote tabulation. Our powerful curriculum builds on students' skills in English, Math and Civics.

# Building your own ballot

MyBallot, which was designed exclusively for high school students, reveals the complexities involved in conducting elections. Students will work hands-on at our department creating their own ballots. Lessons in graphic arts, publishing and precise proofing are just a sampling of what students will learn.

# Learn how to tally votes

Soon students will discover why our MyBallot program is truly one-of-a-kind. During the final stage we'll bring our Mobile Voting Unit directly to participating schools to conduct their ASB or homecoming elections. Students will be directly involved in assembly, tally and certification of the votes cast.

### Becoming a student poll worker

At the end of the program students will be offered the opportunity to work in the polls on Election Day. There are some basic requirements to participate in the program but the rewards last for a lifetime. For complete details visit **ocvote.com/myballot.** 



The 26th Amendment lowered the voting age from 21 to 18. This occurred in 1971, amid the Vietnam War, when 18-year-olds were routinely drafted and sent to war without the right to vote.

# Community outreach

Our mobile outreach vehicle is fully ADA accessible

— giving everyone the opportunity to experience our award winning displays.

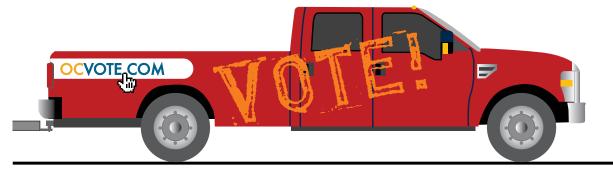
We can bring mobile voting right to your community with our fully contained poll site.

Interactive displays on board bring to light the power and importance of voting.



Our extensive community outreach efforts have been recognized across the United States. Orange County is made up of one of the most diverse voting populations in the country. From young to old, our outreach efforts bring to light the power of voting, volunteerism and democracy. We can bring these tools right to your doorstep with our mobile outreach programs. To learn more visit ocvote.com/outreach.

Perfect for community events, parades and outdoor venues.





Changes to the U.S.
Constitution were passed
following the Civil War which
extended voting rights to
former slaves. In 1920 voting
rights were extended to women
and the Voting Rights Act in
the 1960's further expanded the
rights of all citizens to vote.

# The changing face of voting



# Finding a polling place

We are on the cutting edge of providing quality services to the citizens we serve. You can find your polling place in many locations including the sample ballot you receive in the mail or by visiting **ocvote.com/findmypollsite.** 

#### **Vote-by-Mail ballots**

One of the fastest growing segments of our voters includes those receiving their ballots via the mail. We take extraordinary steps to ensure security of the ballots. Best of all you can track the progress of your voted ballot online to ensure its arrival and status. Find the full details by visiting **ocvote.com/votebymail.** 

### Registering to vote

If you're not registered to vote you're missing out on one of our most important rights as citizens. Registering to vote is fast and easy. Once you're registered it is important that you notify our office if you move or change your address. To register to vote, or simply expand your knowledge on voter registration visit **ocvote.com/register.** 



The Orange County Registrar of Voters provides many ways to contact us with questions, concerns or general information.

1.888.OCVOTES (628.6837)

www.ocvote.com

1300 S. Grand Avenue Building C Santa Ana, CA 92705-4434

# Working to always build on voter confidence

As voting continues to evolve we are committed to communicating these important changes to all voters. Posters, newsletters, podcasts and website improvements are just a handful of the ways we'll keep you informed. Working hard to provide secure and accurate elections is not just our mission — it's what we believe in. Browse through our website to find even more details at **ocvote.com**.



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